

ZP33/A12-1/DRR:cs1
Serial 0598

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
BLIMP SQUADRON THIRTY THREE

Reg. No.	2777
R. S. No.	

CONFIDENTIAL

1 June 1945.

From: Commanding Officer.
To : Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: War Diary, May 1945.
Reference: (a) Pac Fleet conf. ltr. 1CL-45.
Enclosure: (A) Monthly Operation Summary, May 1945.

1 May

ORGANIZATION

(a) Administrative:

Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet.
Commander Air Force, Pacific Fleet.
Commander Fleet Air, West Coast.
Commander Fleet Airships Pacific.
Blimp Squadron Thirty-Three - Tillamook, Oregon.
Lieutenant Commander Frederick N. Klein, Jr., USNR.

(b) Operational:

Commander, Western Sea Frontier (Task Force 06)
Commander, Northwestern Group, Western Sea Frontier. (Task Group 06.3)
Commander Aircraft, Northwestern Group, Western Sea Frontier. (Task Unit 06.3.1)
Commander Fleet Airship Wing Three.
Blimp Squadron Thirty-Three - NAS Tillamook, Oregon.
5 ZNP: K-37, K-71, K-79, K-87, K-119.

Operations during May consisted mainly of escorts and ASR patrol operations within the Northwestern Sector of the Western Sea Frontier. The average daily availability as of the close of the month is four airships which are customarily utilized for escort missions, special missions, radar calibration tests and exercises, air-sea rescue patrols, and weather observation and reporting.

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1 May

K-79 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

2 May

K-79 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.
K-119 sighted buoy adrift 10 miles NW of Destruction Island. Air Plot, Astoria was notified. K-119 stood by until arrival of surface craft.

3 May

K-79 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

4 May

K-79 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

5 May

K-79 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

8 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

9 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

10 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

13 May

K-71 and K-119 conducted search of coastal area from Yaquina Head to Cape Blanco for lost B24. Results were negative.

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14 May

K-37 conducted radar calibration for USS LEXINGTON (CV 16).

K-71 conducted a flight over Seattle, Washington in connection with the opening of the 7th War Bond Drive in accordance with OpNav speed letter Op-34-A1 serial 041438 of 2 May 1945.

15 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

16 May

By order of JOC, NorWesSec, WesSeaFron, an intensive search was conducted by the K-37 and the K-71 for a German submarine desiring to surrender off the Washington Coast. Results of the search were negative. Later the radio message alleged to have been received from the German submarine was proven by JOC, NorWesSec, WesSeaFron to be a hoax.

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

17 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

18 May

K-37 conducted radar calibration for USS SARATOGA (CV 3).

K-79 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

19 May

K-37 conducted radar calibration for USS LEXINGTON (CV 16).

K-87 conducted radar calibration for USS SARATOGA (CV 3).

K-119 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard and radar calibration for USS LEXINGTON (CV 16).

20 May

K-119 was ordered in flight to proceed to the scene of a PBV crash at 48° 15' N., 125° 30' W., and obtained pictures of another PBV making rescue of pilot.

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21 May

K-71 conducted radar calibration for USS GURKE (DD 783).

22 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard and photographed an area in vicinity of Aberdeen, Washington in conjunction with a geological survey for the U.S. Army Engineers, Ft. Lewis, Washington.

K-87, while escorting the USS LEXINGTON (CV 16), received a message from them to be transmitted to NPG, Mare Island, California.

23 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

24 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

25 May

K-37 conducted radar calibration for USS SIBONEY (CVE 112).

K-79 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

26 May

K-37 conducted radar calibration for USS KULIA GULF (CVE 108).

K-71 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

29 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

30 May

K-37 conducted radar calibration of USS SIBONEY (CVE 112).

31 May

K-37 conducted operations with radar laboratory, Puget Sound Navy Yard.

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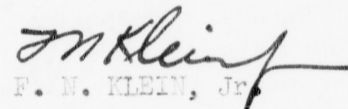
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Pursuant to Commander Northwestern Sector, Western Sea Frontier dispatch 052241 of May 1945, airships of this command conducted intensive day and night anti-submarine patrols from 5 May to 7 May inclusive, along shipping lanes from the 42nd to the 45th parallel.

Installation of AN/ASQ-2B (Mark 6 MAD) in the K-79 was completed on 14 May. Crews of this squadron have conducted several flights since that date for the purpose of indoctrinating personnel in the use of this gear.

There was one non-operational day during the month. Weather data recorded at NAS Tillamook indicated that in the month of May there were 21 days with precipitation. Total precipitation was 3.9 inches. Wind in gusts up to 38 knots was recorded.


F. N. KLEIN, Jr.